



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

13 MARCH 2017

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – California Resident Faces 10-Year Sentence after Scaling White House Fence

(U) Washington— An intruder carrying a backpack was arrested after scaling a fence around the White House and entering the grounds, the US Secret Service said on 11 March, in the latest breach of security at the president's official residence. The suspect, identified in court documents as California resident Jonathan Tran, 26, is scheduled to appear in federal court today after a judge ordered him held without bond. Tran was charged with entering or remaining in restricted grounds while using or carrying a dangerous weapon, and faces a maximum of 10 years in prison.

SOURCE: 12 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) New York – Software Engineer and Pastor in Court over Illegal Bitcoin Exchange

(U) Manhattan – Jurors in Manhattan federal court on 10 March prepared to weigh charges against a Florida software engineer and a New Jersey pastor accused of scheming to help an illegal bitcoin exchange escape scrutiny. The unlicensed bitcoin exchange, Coin.mx, was linked to an investigation of a data breach at JPMorgan Chase & Co that exposed more than 83 million accounts. The company disclosed the breach in 2014. Prosecutors claim that Yuri Lebedev helped arrange bribes to pastor Trevon Gross, including \$150,000 in donations to his church. In exchange, they say, Gross helped the operator of Coin.mx, Anthony Murgio, take over a small credit union Gross ran from his church. Murgio used the credit union to evade scrutiny of banks wary of processing payments involving the virtual currency.

SOURCE: 10 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Oregon – Two Armed Wildlife Refuge Occupiers Guilty of Conspiracy

(U) Portland – Two men who took part in the armed occupation of a US wildlife refuge in Oregon were convicted of federal conspiracy charges on 10 March, in a split verdict that saw two other men cleared of the same counts, prosecutors said. The men and others participated in a 41-day standoff protesting the federal government controlling millions of acres of land in the West. Before participants eventually surrendered, police shot occupier Robert "LaVoy" Finicum to death during a roadside confrontation. Jason Patrick and Darryl Thorn were each found guilty of conspiring to prevent federal workers from doing their jobs at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in remote eastern Oregon.

SOURCE: 11 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Washington – Synagogue Spray-Painted with Graffiti Denying Holocaust

(U) Seattle – Vandals scrawled graffiti claiming the Holocaust was "fake history" on an exterior wall of a Seattle synagogue, leading the rabbi to urge President Donald Trump to more forcefully denounce a wave of anti-Semitic incidents in recent months. Seattle police said they were investigating the vandalism at Temple De Hirsch Sinai as a hate crime after an off-duty officer spotted it on 10 March. The graffiti, along with bomb threats against five U.S. Jewish community centers and one in Canada, were the latest incidents targeting Jewish organizations in recent months.

SOURCE: 12 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany – Police Close Shopping Mall over Fears of Attack

(U) Essen – German police sealed off and closed a shopping mall in the heart of the western city of Essen on Saturday after the security services warned of a possible terrorist attack linked to the ISIS extremist group, Germany's interior minister said yesterday. Reporting citing anonymous security sources said a German fighter with ISIS in Syria had contacted via online messenger a group of fighters - based in Germany and abroad - and tried to motivate them to attack the mall on 11 March. Authorities detained and interrogated two men in nearby Oberhausen. One was released on 11 March, police said, with no details.

SOURCE: 12 March 2017, [WLOX](#)

(U) Somalia – Car Bomb Kills at Least 13 in Somali Capital

(U) Mogadishu – A car bomb near a hotel on a busy street in the Somali capital killed at least 13 people today, police and the emergency medical services said, hours after a man was killed by a blast as he tried to ram through a checkpoint. Police said the blast damaged a house on Maka al Mukaram street but did not destroy its target, the Wehliye Hotel. A spokesman for Somali Islamist insurgent group al-Shabaab claimed the attack.

SOURCE: 13 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – Police Arrest 87 People in Operation Tied to Three Officers' Assassinations

(U) Atzitzintla – Three members of a Puebla anti-kidnapping force were abducted on 9 March and later killed, triggering an operation in which 87 people — including a mayor — were arrested. The operation of state and federal forces captured members of a criminal gang linked to the Zetas cartel, as well as the mayor and municipal police of Atzitzintla. The three officers belonging to the Kidnapping and High-Impact Crime Prosecutor were investigating the gang, believed to control pipeline theft in the region known as the Red Triangle, when they were detained by Atzitzintla police. It was not clear whether the police turned them over to gang members or if they were taken by force. One officer was able to send a message and alert state and federal officials, but it didn't arrive in time to prevent their assassination. Bodies of the three officers were found in nearby Veracruz. They had been shot.

SOURCE: 11 March 2017, [Mexico Daily News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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